

TRUMAN VA BULLETIN

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Hispanic Heritage</i>	2
<i>Disability Employment</i>	2
<i>MRSA Update</i>	2
<i>MFMR Director</i>	2
<i>Welcomes & Farewells</i>	3
<i>Service Pins</i>	3
<i>Federal Woman</i>	4

2008 ALL EMPLOYEE SURVEY DIVERSITY ACCEPTANCE RESULTS

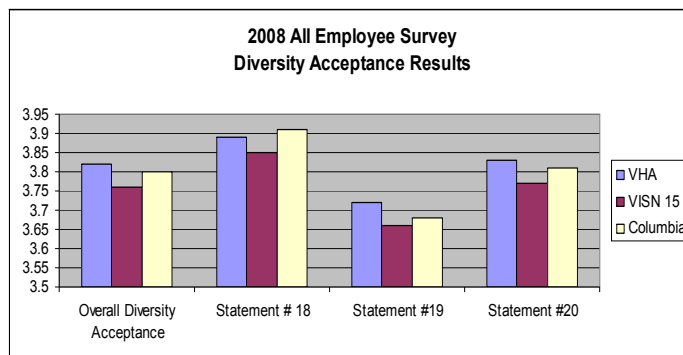
The VHA All Employee Survey measures "Diversity Acceptance" by averaging the individual scores from these three statements:

• **Statement 18** - This organization does not tolerate discrimination.

• **Statement 19** - Differences among individuals are respected and valued in my work group.

• **Statement 20** - Managers/supervisors/team leaders work well with employees of different backgrounds in my work group.

In 2008, Truman VA's Diversity Acceptance scores were consistently higher than VISN 15. However, our scores for statements 19 and 20 were slightly lower than last year. The EEO Committee is committed to promoting diversity recognition and appreciation at our facility. Be on the lookout in 2009 for upcoming diversity activities and events.



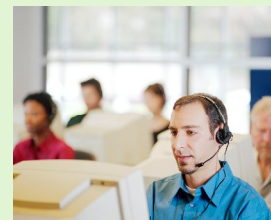
Suicide Prevention Awareness Week

In recognition of Suicide Prevention Awareness Week (September 7–13), several activities are planned at Truman VA. Watch for a special "screen saver" throughout the month of September as well as an information table in the lobby all week long. Brown bag lunch presentations will be made at 12:00 noon in

room B-240A, Monday through Thursday, and a Grand Rounds presentation is scheduled at 12:00 noon in room B-240A on Friday. All interested employees are invited to attend.

2008 Survey of Enrollees

VHA will begin a national telephone survey of all enrollees on Sept. 8. The purpose of the survey is to provide information that is incorporated into annual projections of enrollment, utilization and expenditures. This is a 15-30 minute telephone survey, which is based on a stratified random sample of approximately 42,000 enrolled veterans including at least 2,000 from each VISN. Interviews will continue for 10 weeks.



ODDS AND ENDS...

2008 National Hispanic Heritage Month

VA joins the nation in celebrating National Hispanic Heritage Month from Sept. 15 through Oct. 15. This year's theme is "Getting Involved: Our Families, Our Community, Out Nation." During this month, we celebrate the vibrant Hispanic American spirit that influences our nation's art, music, food and faiths. We also celebrate the practices of commitment to family, love of country and respect for others – virtues that transcend ethnicity, reflect the American spirit and that are exemplified in the Hispanic American community.

Throughout our nation's military history, men and women of different racial and ethnic backgrounds have made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of freedom. We express our deepest gratitude to the hundreds of thousands of Hispanic military veterans for answering the call to service and to their families that stood by them.



Disability Employment Information Updates

Have you updated your disability employment information lately? The hospital uses this information to ensure that it is meeting VHA's established hiring goals of two percent for individuals with targeted disabilities. All employees are invited to update their disability employment information by completing a Self Identification of Medical Disability Form (SF-256), which is available on the hospital home page or in Human Resources (HR). Completed forms should be submitted to HR. Response is completely voluntary and the information is kept confidential and is used only for affirmative employment purposes including identifying barriers to hiring, placement and advancement of people with disabilities. Individuals may self-identify at any time during their employment.

MRSA Program Update

Since beginning the Methicillin Resistant Staff Aureus (MRSA) Surveillance and Prevention Program in all acute care units last October, hospital-wide rates for admission testing have topped the 90 percent goal each month. Part of the program includes repeat testing for MRSA upon transfer or discharge from any unit. Of special note, the Intensive Care Unit has had no MRSA transmissions in the past six months. Truman VA has been a beta test site for guidelines for the Community Living Center (3 East), allowing us to have input for national policy. Thanks to staff members from all nursing units and ancillary support departments for their hard work in preventing infection.

New Executive Director for Missouri Foundation for Medical Research

James Lambert has been selected as the new executive director for The Missouri Foundation for Medical Research, a not-for-profit organization that operates out of Truman VA's Research area. Lambert recently retired after serving as the Regional President of Chemcentral Corporation in Chicago for the past seven years. Prior to working for Chemcentral for a total of 26 years, he served in the

U.S. Army, attaining the rank of Captain. Lambert served in Vietnam as a platoon leader and advisor and was awarded two Bronze Stars.

MFMR
NEWS

NEW & DEPARTING EMPLOYEES

Welcome

Gerald Cupp, MD,
Staff Cardiologist (SC)

Ashley Oser, RN,
Staff Nurse (PS)

Whitney Simms,
Student Nurse Technician
(PS)

Jacob Stockglausner,
Pharmacy Aid (Pharmacy)

Michelle Stone, Student
Nurse Technician (PS)

Dana A. Thomas, Student
Nurse Technician (PS)

Farewell

Nicole Asal,
Pharmacy Aid (Pharmacy)

Susan Audiss, Medical Sup-
port Assistant (PC)

Victoria Bonney, RPh,
Pharmacist (Pharmacy)

Deondre Carthron,
Medical Supply Aid (PS)

Malaika Gallimore,
Program Support Assistant
(Research)

Kayla Ivey,
Recreation Aid (PS)

Emily Johnson, RN,
Staff Nurse (PS)

Darla Kennedy, RN, Staff
Nurse (PS)

Lindsey Penick,
Physical Therapy Assistant
(CS)

Christopher Peters,
Medical Support Assistant
(PC)

Dawn Wetrich, RN, Staff
Nurse (PS)

SEPTEMBER SERVICE PIN RECIPIENTS

30-Years ★★★★★★

Mary Ann Atteberry,
Program Support Clerk (SC)

Robert L. Crawford,
Human Resources Specialist
(HR)

Randale H. Keller,
Food Service Worker
(Canteen)

25-Years ★★★★★★

Patricia A. Bramon, RN,
Staff Nurse (PS)

Elizabeth T. Carter,
Program Support Assistant
(PC)

Janice K. Driskill,
Administrative Officer (BH)

DeShanta Y. Powell,
Secretary (COS)

Sean C. Quinn,
Mail Clerk (HAS)

20-Years ★★★★★

Kimberly M. Hickey,
Occupational Therapist (CS)

Robyn S. Sams, RN,
Staff Nurse (PS)

15-Years ★★★

Marilyn F. Benedict, LPN
(PS)

Gwendolyn M. Jones,
Supervisory Physical Thera-
pist (CS)

Pamela J. Pickett,
Program Support Assistant
(FIN)

Kent P. Taylor, CRNA,
Nurse Anesthetist (SC)

10-Years ★★

Kandis L. Bolles,
Health Technician (PS)

Mark A. Hern,
Medical Administration
Specialist (HAS)

Nora J. Lambert,
Health Technician (SC)

5-Years ★

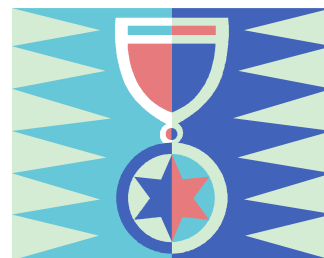
Kristina M. DeVenney,
MCCR Billing Clerk (FIN)

Joy R. Hollandsworth, RD,
Dietitian (PS)

Geraldine H. Ikerd, LPN
(PS)

Patrick W. Killian, RN,
Staff Nurse (PS)

Chandra Rawlani, RN,
Staff Nurse (PS)



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FEDERAL WOMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD RECIPIENTS—2008

Congratulations to **Alice Gravino**, Voluntary Services Assistant, and **Lana Zerrer, MD**, Director of the Primary Care Service Line! They were named as recipients of the 2008 Federal Woman of the Year awards at the annual Women's Equality Day program on Friday, August 22.

Pictured at right, top:
Hospital Director, Sallie Houser-Hanfelder, FACHE presents Dr. Lana Zerrer the award for Federal Woman of the Year, above the GS-8 grade, as Missy Bell, Federal Women's Program Coordinator looks on.

Pictured at right, bottom:
Ms. Houser-Hanfelder, FACHE presents Alice Gravino the award for Federal Woman of the Year, GS-8 and below.

Lana Zerrer, MD (Photo: James Broadus)



Alice Gravino (Photo: James Broadus)

